

## The Operative Treatment for Volar Plate Avulsion Fractures of Base of Middle Phalanx in Proximal Interphalangeal Joint

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Unreduced volar plate avulsion fracture of base of middle phalanx in proximal interphalangeal(PIP) joint result in chronic joint instability, traumatic arthritis, joint stiffness, deformity. In spite of various operative method recommended, this injury remains a problematic obstacles in the management. Sixteen patients who received operative treatment for this injury from 1992 to 1999 at Yongdong Severance Hospital were analyzed retrospectively. The indication of surgical treatment included articular fracture involved over 30% articular surface, displacement over 2~3 mm, impingement by interposition of fragment into joint cavity and open fracture. The patients were all man and the mean age was 28.8 years old(16~57). The third finger of dominant hand was the most commonly involved site. Eight cases received an open reduction and internal fixation and seven cases, closed reduction and external fixation. The remaining one

case received a volar plate arthroplasty. At one year postoperation, clinical result, evaluated by Steel's scoring method, showed excellent, good in thirteen cases (81%). There were two complicated cases; one case of traumatic arthritis and the other case of severe PIP joint contracture where the active range of motion was less than 10°.

This results suggest the good result can be obtained by operative treatment for which well operatively indicated patients and proper operative method are selected.

**Key Words :** Volar plate, Proximal interphalangeal joint, Avulsion fracture

가		16	가		1
, ,			3		
1992 4		1999 4	가		1
1		가	16		
가 2 ~ 3 mm		30% (impingement)			
(impingement)			1.		
(hinged external fixator), orthofix external fixator, (Pin and rubbers traction system) <sup>1,12)</sup>		가	16	28.8 (16 ~ 57 )	
(miniscrew)		K- (Kirschner's wire) 24 G	1	16	4.6
			2.		
			가 3		
			11 , -		3
			가 4		
			3 가 8 가		
			2 가 4 , 5 가 3 , 4		
			가 1 (dominant hand)		
			12 (nondominant hand)		

**Table 1.** Method of clinical assessment by Steel

<i>Pain</i>		<i>Deformity</i>	
No pain	100	None	100
Cold aches(weather-related)	80	Less than 15° angulatory or rotational deformity	75
Mild pain(no analgesics)	60	More than 15° deformity	0
Moderate pain(occ. analgesics)	40		
Severe pain(regular analgesics)	20		
<i>Movement and Function</i> : percentage of normal opposite site			
<i>Scoring</i>		<i>Overall result</i>	
Pain	100	400	Excellent
Deformity	100	350-399	Good
Movement	100	300-349	Fair
Function	100	300 or less	Poor
Total	400		

3 6 1 가  
(pull-out wire technique) (Fig. 4).  
2 , 1  
3. 4.  
가 7  
orthofix external fixator가 4 ,  
가 2 , 1  
(Fig. 1). 가  
orthofix external fixator  
가 1  
K-  
(Fig. 2).  
가 8  
K- 가 3 , 24 G 3  
, 2 (Fig. 3A, B).  
2 . 6  
가 70.



**Fig. 1.** Postoperative radiographs of external fixation with a hinged external fixation fixator, lateral(left) and posteroanterior (right) view. This system can make an early digital motion and a maintenance of fracture reduction.



**Fig. 2.** Postoperative radiographs of external fixation by pin and rubbers traction method, lateral(left) and posteroanterior(right) view. The maintenance of fracture reduction and a digital traction with motion can be obtained by this system.



**Fig. 3.** **A.** Preoperative radiograph showing large bony fragment with 3 mm displacement. **B.** Postoperative radiograph of same patient showing a firm fixation of fracture with two miniscrews after an open reduction. Lateral(left) and posteroanterior(right) view



**Fig. 4.** Postoperative radiograph shwoing volar arthroplasty with pull-out wire technique. Lateral(left) and posteroanterior(right) view

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 8). , ,  
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 7). 가  
 , - ,  
 가 3,6).  
 가  
 2,6).  
 16 11 가 , 2 -

3,5,13) 9 가 8 orthofix ex-  
 ternal fixator,  
 28.8  
 7  
 3 K-  
 2  
 50% 3 가 8 16 , 3 24 G  
 3 가  
 3 가 가  
 가  
 (Fig. 5).  
 . Phair 9)  
 가 2 mm × 2 mm × 2 mm  
 Skoff 11) 40%  
 가 , 40%  
 가  
 , 40%  
 30%  
 가 2 ~ 3 mm  
 . 1978 Agee<sup>1)</sup> force coupler me-  
 thod , 1980 Eaton<sup>4)</sup>  
 1992 Green<sup>5)</sup>  
 (surface replacement arthroplasty)  
 10,13)



**Fig. 5.** This lateral(left) and posteroanterior(right) view of postoperative radiographs showing internal fixation with one 24G needle with the tip embedded in the subcutaneous layer.

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16

3.

4.

가 K-

가

5.

6. 1

81% 70%  
Steel's clinical scoring method  
81% excellent, good

16	12.5%	2
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1.

가 10.

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